AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

At page 1, after the Title, please insert the following:

--CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is the U.S. National Phase filing under 35 U.S.C. §371 of PCT/DK2004/000520, filed July 30, 2004, which designated the United States and was published in English, which claims priority to Danish Patent Application Nos. PA 2003 01118, filed August 1, 2003, and PA 2004 00997, filed June 25, 2004. The contents of these applications are expressly incorporated herein by reference in their entireties.—

At page 5, after the paragraph ending with line 12, please insert the following:

--BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Figures 1A-1F shows slabs formed by combining vermiculite and microsilica. Vermiculite and microsilica were placed in a plastic drum and vigorously shaken. The mixture was then placed in a kitchen mixer, and a KOH solution was sprayed on over a 2-4 min period with the mixture rotating at very low speed. The final mixture was quantitatively transferred to a mold, placed in a small hydraulic press, pressed to a slab of dimensions 300 mm x 300 mm x 15 mm, wrapped in plastic and dried at 60°C for 1 hour. The plastic was then removed, and the slab was dried at 90°C for 20 hours. These slabs, designated as A-2, A-4 and A-6 are shown in Figs. 1A-1C. Comparison slabs D-2, D-4 and D-6 (Figs. 1D-1F) were prepared in the same manner as described above, except that the starting materials were combined by first mixing the microsilica slurry and water, adding KOH and then adding the vermiculite. Slabs A-2, A-4 and A-6 (Figs. 1A-1C) were more homogeneous than slabs D-2, D-4 and D-6 (Figs. 1D-1F).--

At page 18, after Table 3, please insert the following:

--Below are listed numbered embodiments, starting from embodiment 14, that are relevant to the third aspect of the invention:

14. A method for preparing a cured product comprising aggregate and a binder system, said binder system being derived from a mixture of an amorphous, inorganic material M, one or more bases, and optionally additives, in a solvent, the method comprising

1)

a) mixing the aggregate, the one or more bases and optionally additives and solvent to form a first component (1A);

b) providing amorphous, inorganic material M, optionally mixed with water, as a second component (1B);

c) mixing together components (1A) and (1B); and

d) allowing the mixture to cure;

or

2)

a) mixing aggregate and amorphous, inorganic material M and optionally additives and solvent to form a first component (2A);

b) providing the one or more bases, optionally mixed with water, as a second component (2B);

c) mixing together components (2A) and (2B); and

d) allowing the mixture to cure.

15. A method according to embodiment 14, wherein the material M is an oxide.

16. A method according to embodiment 15, wherein the material M comprises at least one element selected from the group consisting of B, Al, Ga, In, Tl, Ge, Sn, Pb, Te, P, As, Sb, Bi, S, Se, and Te.

17. A method according to any of the embodiments 15-16, wherein the material M comprises at least one metal element from the group of transition metals.

18. A method according to any of the embodiments 15-17, wherein the material M comprises at least one metal element from the group of lanthanoids.

19. A method according to any of the embodiments 15-18, wherein the material M comprises at least one metal element from the group of actinoids.

20. A method according to embodiment 14, wherein the material M is a hydroxide or an oxy hydroxide.

21. A method according to embodiment 20, wherein the material M comprises at least one element selected from the group consisting of B, Al, Ga, In, Tl, Ge, Sn, Pb, Te, P, As, Sb, Bi, S, Se, and Te.

22. A method according to any of the embodiments 20-21, wherein the material M comprises at least one metal element from the group of transition metals.

23. A method according to any of the embodiments 20-22, wherein the material M comprises at least one metal element from the group of lanthanoids.

24. A method according to any of the embodiments 20-23, wherein the material M comprises at least one metal element from the group of actinoids.

25. A method according to embodiment 14, wherein the material M is a nitride.

26. A method according to embodiment 25, wherein the material M comprises at least one element selected from the group consisting of B, Al, Ga, In, Tl, Ge, Sn, Pb, Te, P, As, Sb, Bi, S, Se, and Te.

27. A method according to any of the embodiments 25-26, wherein the material M comprises at least one metal element from the group of transition metals.

28. A method according to any of the embodiments 25-27, wherein the material M comprises at least one metal element from the group of lanthanoids.

29. A method according to any of the embodiments 25-28, wherein the material M comprises at least one metal element from the group of actinoids.

30. A method according to embodiments 14, wherein the material M is a carbide.

31. A method according to embodiments 30, wherein the material M comprises at least one element selected from the group consisting of: B, Al, Ga, In, Tl, Ge, Sn, Pb, Te, P, As, Sb, Bi, S, Se, and Te.

32. A method according to any of the embodiments 30-31, wherein the material M comprises at least one metal element from the group of transition metals.

33. A method according to any of the embodiments 30-32, wherein the material M comprises at least one metal element from the group of lanthanoids.

34. A method according to any of the embodiments 30-33, wherein the material M comprises at least one metal element from the group of actinoids.

35. A method according to embodiment 14, wherein the material M is an amorphous mineral compound, preferably of natural origin.

36. A method according to embodiment 14, wherein the material M is an amorphous clay-like compound, a micro-crystalline clay-like compound or similar.

37. A material prepared by a method according to any of embodiments 14-36.--